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MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: 11-2-06

Signature: [Signature]  
Yvonne C. Steiner)

Docket No.: 13077-00124-US  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Karsten Beck et al.

Application No.: 10/571,153

Confirmation No.:

Filed: March 9, 2006

Art Unit: N/A

For: VALVE METAL-OXIDE POWDER AND  
METHOD FOR PRODUCING SAID  
POWDER

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(ii), Applicant has not submitted copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications, except that a copy of U.S. Patent No. 3,112,991 has been provided for the Examiner's convenience. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A copy of the International Search Report is enclosed constituting statements of relevancy of the references cited therein and on form PTO/SB/08.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 03-2775, under Order No. 13077-00124-US. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: October 30, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By

Ashley I. Pezzner

Registration No.: 35,646

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

1007 North Orange Street

P.O. Box 2207

Wilmington, Delaware 19899

(302) 658-9141

(302) 658-5614 (Fax)

Attorney for Applicant



PTO/SB/08A/B (09-06)

Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/571,153
				Filing Date	March 9, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Karsten Beck
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	13077-00124-US
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Filing Date / Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	AA*	US-3,112,991	12-3-1963	William B. Fisher	
	AB*	US-5,384,306	1-24-1995	Theo Konig et al.	
	AC*	US-6,123,062	9-26-2000	William Ross Rapoport et al.	
	AD*	US-6,136,062	10-24-2000	Josua Loeffelholz et al.	
	AE*	US-6,338,832	1-15-2002	Patrick M. Brown et al.	
	AF*	US-2003/0082097	05-01-2003	Patrick M. Brown et al.	
	AG*	US-2003/0230167	12-18-2003	Josua Loeffelholz et al.	
	AH*	US-7,066,979	06-27-2006	Josua Loeffelholz et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	BA	DE-42 14 724 A1	11-11-1993	Theo Koenig et al.		US5,384,306
	BB	DE-44 22 761 C1	03-07-1996	Dieter Behrens et al.		
	BC	DE 10 30 7716 A1	9-25-2003	Josua Loeffelholz et al.		US7,066,979
	BD	WO-97/13724	4-17-1997	Patrick M. Brown et al.		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \* CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an asterisk (\*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author ( in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T <sup>2</sup>
	CA	Maria Ziolek, "Niobium-containing Catalysts – the State of the Art," <u>Catalysis Today</u> 78, 2003, pp. 47-64.			
	CB	Takuya Tsuzuki et al., "Mechanochemical Synthesis of Niobium Pentoxide Nanoparticles," <u>Materials Transactions</u> , Vol. 42, No. 8, 2001, pp. 1623-1628.			
	CC	Junko N. Kondo et al., "Synthesis and Property of Mesoporous Tantalum Oxides," <u>Topics in Catalysis</u> , Vol. 19, No. 2, Apr. 2002, pp. 171-177.			
	CD	Claus Feldmann et al., "Polyol-Mediated Preparation of Nanoscale Oxide Particles," <u>Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.</u> , Vol. 40, No. 2, 2001, pp. 359-362.			
	CE	Hiroshi Kominami et al., "Novel Solvothermal Synthesis of Niobium(v) Oxide Powders and Their Photocatalytic Activity in Aqueous Suspensions," <u>J. Mater. Chem.</u> , Vol. 11(2), 2001, pp. 604-609.			
	CF	Claus Feldmann et al., "Polyol-vermittelte Preparation Nanoskaliger Oxidpartikel," <u>Angew. Chem.</u> , Vol. 113, No. 2, 2001, pp. 372-374.			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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